

REMARKS

Claims 1, 12, 20, 23-24, and 31 have been amended and no new matter has been added. The amended independent claims include, among other features, generating one or more items of tuple cache information for request messages of a specified type (e.g., SYN request) and determining the number of valid request messages by analyzing the one or more items of tuple cache information. These features are not disclosed by Chen et al. Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

Applicants Petition for a two-month Extension of Time. Please apply the Extension of Time fee and any necessary charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

1/22/07

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